

CAMM

PERROT

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

1951

MONTREAL YMCA

Dr. J. Preston Robb

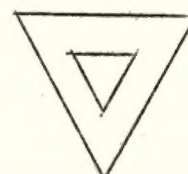
Chairman

E. Hammond

Perrot Committee

A. Ross Seaman

Director.



CAMP PERROT 1951 REPORT



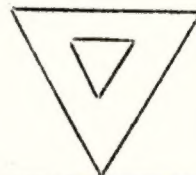
To The Camp Board of Management

Gentlemen:

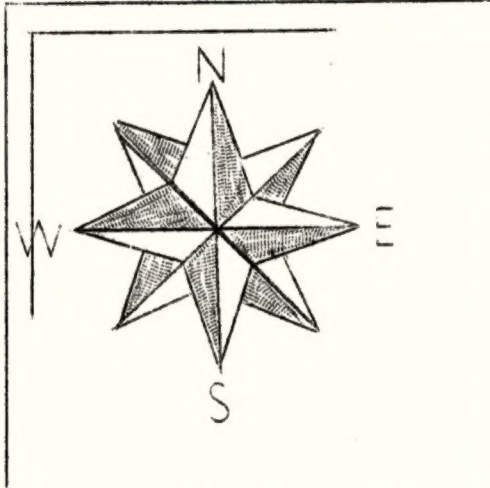
Nineteen fifty-one has proven to be one of the most successful seasons the camp has experienced. With a near capacity registration throughout the entire eight weeks, a staff of highly skilled and interested persons, well trained counsellors plus the unexcelled equipment of the camp all contributed to a successful eighth year of operation.

The season's highlight was the dedication of the Laddie Millen Memorial Handicraft Work Shop on July 29th. The workshop building with complete equipment for both boys' and girls' Handicrafts was the gift of Mr. J. Earnest Millen in memory of his late son.

The Montreal Westward Rotary, Foreman's Club of Montreal and the Lachine Kinsmen's Club continued their excellent support of the camp in sending a large number of needy children for a holiday in the country. The Foreman's Club also contributed towards new camp equipment. The interest shown by these service clubs in the camp is most gratifying and encouraging and the deep appreciation of the camp should be accorded these service clubs at this time.



COUNSELLOR TRAINING



Counsellor training course this past season included two evening sessions at the Central Y.M.C.A., in May a week-end practical training course at the camp and a four day in-camp course prior to the opening. The director also sent out four training kits which were mimeographed forms discussing such topics as discipline, water safety, rainy day program, camp organization and camp standards. This course of training while it could be lengthened, allows time for considerable training. The opening of camp was post-

poned three days over the previous year in order to assure that all counsellors and staff could be in camp for the pre-camp training period.

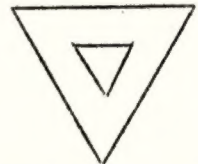
PROGRAM

This past season particular emphasis was placed on pre-camp program planning with members of the program staff. Each of the three sections based their program on a theme.

The Pioneers' (10 to 11 years) program was evolved about the Indian theme. Small imaginations thrilled to the way of the Indian with council ceremonies, Indian skills and crafts. Much of the history of the Indian activities about the district was revealed to the campers.

Campers in the Coureurs de bois section (12 to 13 years) struggled successfully with the skills of their predecessors in order to receive their "powder horns" as recognition of their achievements. In the Chief's cottage hangs a powder horn with the names of the successful candidates inscribed.

True to their name the Voyageur Campers (13 to 16 years) spent more time on the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers than in camp, following the routes taken by the Voyageurs of long ago.





PROGRAM (Cont'd)

The traditional program features of the camp which each year are called for by the campers played an important part in the all camp program. These included Christmas Day, the Camp Birthday party, the circus, Moldy Gloves Boxing Tournament, Penny Carnival, Olympic Meet, Indian Ceremonies, the closing Banquet and the opening and closing campfire ceremonies.

GIRLS' CAMP

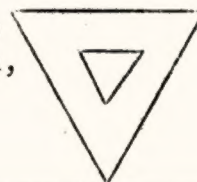
The girls' camp this season set something of a record in that the sun shone only four of the fourteen days. Despite this difficulty the girls enjoyed a fine camp session.

A campers' council took responsibility for planning each day's program and assisted in carrying it out.

Of the one hundred and five girls who attended camp this summer forty-seven were successful in attaining Junior and Intermediate Red Cross swimming certificates. The new Laddie Millen Memorial Handicraft Shop had great appeal for the girls, Mr. J. E. Millen graciously supplying complete leathercraft equipment for the girls. It is also interesting to note that the girls displayed considerable interest in woodwork, turning out many very fine articles.

Perhaps one of the highlights of the camp session was the "Annual Fair". This day long program started in the morning with preparations for the Penny Carnival in the afternoon. This was followed by "supper at the Fair". In the evening the side shows took over with many weird and wonderful acts. Girls' camp was a "singing camp" with music playing an important part in the program.

During girls' camp the new camp bell, a gift of the St. Lambert United Church, was formally dedicated by the Reverend J. MacRae, minister of the church.





CRAFTS

The new Laddie Millen Memorial Handicraft Shop opened up an entirely new field of program at Camp Perrot this summer. Equipped with the finest tools available including power tools, practically every camper had the opportunity to take home some article made in the shop. The shop is equipped to handle approximately forty boys working in the shop at one time.

The activity witnessed in the Handicraft Shop morning, afternoon and evening from the time the shop was opened clearly showed the significant part it will play in the camp program in the years to come and will be most gratifying to the donor.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The camp experienced another season of good health and was free from accidents. There were the usual minor complaints and these were quickly and competently cared for at the camp hospital.

The waterfront activities were as usual strictly supervised and completely accident free.

BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

The present overall condition of the camp buildings and equipment is excellent. Naturally there are the regular maintenance items. The previously mentioned Laddie Millen Handicraft Shop has added the much needed feature to the camp. This shop is one of the most modern and completely equipped of its kind in any camp in Canada. The dining hall will require repainting in the Spring and the final installation of the septic tank at the camp hospital.

The cement receptical of the camp toilet was replaced prior to the opening of camp following condemnation of the previous one. This was constructed by the local contractor along the lines recommended by the camp medical advisor.





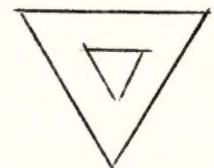
REFORESTATION

In the 1950 season's report it was announced that negotiations had been carried out with the Quebec Government whereby they would supply the camp with some six hundred trees to commence a long term reforestation project for the camp. In the Spring of this year members of the Camp Board of Management carried out the first stage of this program by planting approximately six hundred trees as per the plan set down by the Government Forestry Engineer. This Fall the planting was inspected by Government Officials who congratulated the camp on the excellent job done. The planting was carried out with practically no loss of plants.

Application has already been made to the Government for the second lot of tree plants to be planted in the Spring of '52 in an area already prepared at the back of the camp property, this in keeping with the master plan for reforestation of the camp.

ADVANCE GUARD

For the past three seasons a group of young people from Point St. Charles have made a major contribution to Camp Perrot in giving liberally of their time for the six week-ends prior to the opening of camp. This group of young men and women have spent literally one hundred hours preparing the camp for each year's operation. The task for preparing a camp such as this is an arduous one and requires hours of painting, cleaning and repairing. The director would like to express here the deep appreciation of the Camp Board as well as his own to this group for their loyal support. This group includes Miss Isobel Colcomb, Miss Myrtle McLeod, Miss Nancy Dimianchuk, Norman McLeod, Wallace Devine, John Thompson and Richard Freitag.





RECOMMENDATIONS

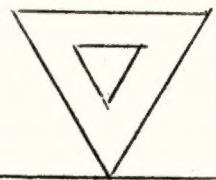
1. The present staff accomodation at the camp is now taxed beyond capacity. This presents a major problem particularly in the case of the camp director. At present the main cottage of the camp above the highway is the only quarters for the director. This building serves as general meeting place for camp staff and counsellors as well as the staff residence and the camp administration building. The job of directing the camp is an arduous and exacting one. The main cottage is an old building with very thin

walls. This means that if there is a meeting or gathering of any kind it is impossible to conduct interviews or carry on any kind of work. It is also felt that the director is at present too far from the center of camp activities being separated from the camp proper by the highway. It is therefore recommended that a director's cabin be erected in the camp proper. Plans for this proposed cabin are available through the courtesy of a friend of the camp.

2. The gravel road adjoining the camp has now been paved and with it comes an increased safety hazard that will bring additional traffic past the camp. It is suggested that some thought be given to the possibility of some type of underpass which would eliminate the necessity of campers crossing the highway.

3. The problem of the erosion at the waterfront has not yet been solved. Funds have been available to construct a retaining wall for the past three seasons but there have been good reasons why this wall could not be constructed. It was brought to the attention of the camp staff this year that the back wash created by this wall would remove the sandy beach.

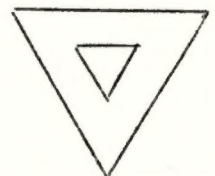
It is therefore recommended that the problem of this erosion be turned over to experts in this field. The director feels that this is a serious problem as we have lost some forty feet of property within the last three years.





RECOMMENDATIONS (Cont'd)

4. A coal jacket heater provides hot water for the camp kitchen. Near the close of the camp season the grates burned out and the door of the heater was smashed. An electrically operated heater could be readily adapted to replace the coal heater. It would eliminate the necessity of handling coal and also provide a better service.
5. With the addition of the Laddie Millen Memorial Handicraft Shop to the camp equipment, the director feels that definite consideration be given to employing a fulltime Handicraft director for the coming season. The shop with its superior equipment needs someone skilled in instruction of Handicrafts if a proper job is to be done in this program. From the time the shop was in operation this past season it was used morning, afternoon and evening. Handicrafts are to play a major part in future camp program and if this job is to be done adequately, it requires the fulltime efforts of a competent person.
6. It is becoming increasingly evident that some type of wash house should be constructed in the camp. The present facilities are not adequate particularly in the case of the girls' camp. The facilities at present are five taps in the center of the camp with no protection afforded from the weather. It is suggested that a simple shelter with proper drainage be constructed in the camp.





CLOSING

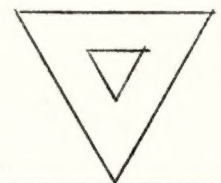
The director records here his deep appreciation to the many people who have a part in making Camp Perrot the fine camp it is for boys and girls.

The Staff and counsellors of boys' and girls' camp.
The Camp Board of Management.
The Staff of the Montreal Y.M.C.A.
Mr. O. N. H. Owens and Mr. R. Fair for their valuable assistance in the designing and equipping the Handicraft Shop.
Miss Vera Rutherford of the Camp Office in Montreal.
Roy D. Locke, executive secretary of Boys' Camp.
And to the many other friends, the

"Thanks of a Camper."

Respectfully submitted,

A. Ross Seaman.





CAMP STAFF

BOYS' CAMP

A. Ross Seaman
E. G. Knight
Eric Robinson
G. W. Taylor
C. Robinson
Miss A. Grbac
Miss J. Snyder
C. McMichael
E. Zimmerman

Director
Voyageur Section Director
Coureur de Bois Section
Pioneer Section
Waterfront Director.
Nurse
Business Manager
Chef
Assistant chef.

GIRLS' CAMP

Mrs. A. Ross Seaman
Miss E. Bradley
Mrs. P. Everard
Mrs. J. Mayotte
Miss H. Marshall

Director
Voyageur Section Director
Pioneer Section
Waterfront Director
Nurse

BOYS

S. Bobula
R. Bradley
J. Duggan
W. Jones
E. Kenwood
R. Hewitt
P. Olshefsky
D. Presley
D. Presley
G. Robertson
G. Smith
J. Waide
D. Williams
A. Kowaluk

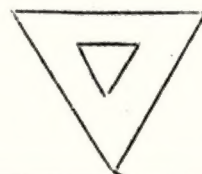
C. I. T's
P. Miller
E. Oke

COUNSELLORS

GIRLS

P. Binns
S. Spencer
L. Ball
M. McLeod
S. Pike
N. Guest
E. Saunders
B. Warren
O. Norman
K. Sullivan
E. Holmes
J. Walford
G. Mercer
N. Lachapelle

C.I.T's
P. Lemay





STATISTICS

CAMPER WEEKS

	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Boys	358	588	635	584
Girls	178	189	193	203
	<u>536</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>828</u>	<u>787</u>

NO. OF INDIVIDUAL CAMPERS

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Boys	223	199	177
Girls	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>105</u>
	323	299	282

GROUPS USING CAMP PERROT

St. Annes United Church	18
Foremen's Club	23
Westmount Branch	15
Rosemount Branch	103
N. D. G. Y.M.C.A. Branch	15
Mtl. Westward Rotary Club	27
Central Branch	60
Chalmers United Church	45
City Hall Ave. Branch	50
Kanawana Canoe Trip	16
Dominion Douglas United Church	35
Rosemount United Church	55
Strathmore United Church	150
Phalanx	18
Parents & Visitors	<u>916</u>
Total:	1546

